

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for partitioning code space in a communication system, comprising the steps of:

dividing a code space into at least two subspaces, the at least two subspaces comprising at least one first subspace and at least one second subspace, where codes in the at least one first subspace are assigned to at least one user at a time for a communication session and where all of the codes in the at least one second [[subspaces]] subspace are assigned to one user;

assigning a first code to a user currently using a second code in one of the at least two subspaces; and

performing an in-sector handoff of the user from the second code to the first code.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of assigning the second code to a different one of the at least two subspaces.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the user is using the second code in the at least one first subspace.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one first subspace is used for voice communication.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, where in the at least one second subspace is used for data communication.

6. (Currently Amended) A method for partitioning code space in a communication system, comprising the steps of:

dividing a code space into at least two subspaces, the at least two subspaces comprising at least one first subspace and at least one second subspace, where codes in the at least one first subspace are assigned to at least one user at a time for a communication session and where all of the codes in the at least one second ~~[[subspaces]]~~ subspace are assigned to one user;

assigning a first code to a user currently using a second code in one of the at least two subspaces;

handing off the user from the second code to the first code; and

assigning the second code to a different one of the at least two subspaces.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6, wherein the user is using the second code in the at least one first subspace.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6, wherein the at least one first subspace is used for voice communication.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6, where in the at least one second subspace is used for data communication.

10. (Currently Amended) A method for partitioning code space in a communication system, comprising the steps of:

dividing a code space into at least two subspaces, the at least two subspaces comprising at least one first subspace and at least one second subspace, where codes in the at least one first subspace are assigned to at least one user at a time for a communication session and where all of the codes in the at least one second [[subspaces]] subspace are assigned to one of a plurality of users on a time shared basis;

assigning a first code to a user currently using a second code in one of the at least two subspaces;

handing off the user from the second code to the first code; and

assigning the second code to a different one of the at least two subspaces.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein the user is using the second code in the at least one first subspace.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein the at least one first subspace is used for voice communication.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, where in the at least one second subspace is used for data communication.

14. (Currently Amended) A method for partitioning code space in a communication system, comprising the steps of:

dividing a code space into at least two subspaces, the at least two subspaces comprising at least one first subspace and at least one second subspace, where codes in the at least one first subspace are assigned to at least one user at a time for a communication session and where all of the codes in the at least one second ~~[[subspaces]]~~ subspace are assigned to one of a plurality of users on a time shared basis;

assigning a first code to a user currently using a second code in one of the at least two subspaces; and

performing an in-sector handoff of the user from the second code to the first code.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, further comprising the step of assigning the second code to a different one of the at least two subspaces.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, wherein the user is using the second code in the at least one first subspace.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 14, wherein the at least one first subspace is used for voice communication.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 14, where in the at least one second subspace is used for data communication.